

In Local Government it gets harder and harder to have a balanced budget.

However South Norfolk is a well-run council in which residents come first

As a councillor, it's important we set officers the right strategy

- building the economy,
- generating income from commercial activity and
- reducing demand with a human approach to prevention.

#Building the economy:

Close relationship with the LEP and local businesses have received more LEP grants than any other district in Norfolk or Suffolk. That didn't happen by itself.

We will continue

- invest in the Enterprise Zone
- develop the A11 Corridor with our neighbours
- We will need to work more closely across Greater Norwich to build an economy that does not recognise mediaeval administrative boundaries.

#Growing Income

Our progress on growing income performing strongly –

- Commercialisation and Brown Bins performing well.
- Numbers of members at Wymondham increased by over 1000 members so far this year
- We will build even more homes ourselves
- Pleased that government allows our planning charges to reflect the true economic costs of administration

#Prevention

Reducing demand for services is just as important as raising income in many departments.

With the media focus on pressures on the Health Service you would be forgiven for not realising the important role that your local district council plays in preventing people needing urgent healthcare in the first place.

Keeping people fit and healthy across South Norfolk by supporting sporting clubs and providing leisure and fitness facilities that promote active lifestyles is just one element. The opening of the new Long Stratton all-weather pitch in January is an example.

For older and vulnerable residents, keeping people independent at home for longer with services like our handyman service who can change lightbulbs, fit smoke detectors or other small works reduces pressure on scarce and expensive care home spaces so they can be used for more urgent cases and keep residents close to family and friends. Over 1600 people have been supported in South Norfolk this year to keep independent at home.